TURN YOU

CH9

I started putting Zeich in a container at night. We didn't want to risk it; what if he could spit acid like Tessa's shark suit?

He knew what had to be done to keep both of us safe and I rested at night.

He kept turning into this monster, but he was too weak, in the end, to escape the box.

2 DAYS LATER

Zeich didn't make any noise this time. Didn't even move from the way I originally laid him.

And then, these night disturbances just... stopped.

He didn't have a problem afterward.

Hi.

3 WEEKS PASS

That's good.

Things could be better, but we're going to work it all out when we meet in person.

No way, you're actually gonna go there?

Yeah! Took two weeks off of work to drive down there.

A 16 hour drive but it's worth it.

But... we've never been apart for that long.

Tessa and I have been friends since childhood... We've never been separated for more than a week. We'd done most everything together.

One day I'm going to move away forever to live with her. It's best if you get used to being apart now.

Y-yeah.

Being apart for that long made me uncomfortable.

Suffice to say I wasn't getting used to it.

A bunch of 'what ifs' flooded my head. 'What if I got hurt? Who would help me recover?'

Things like that.

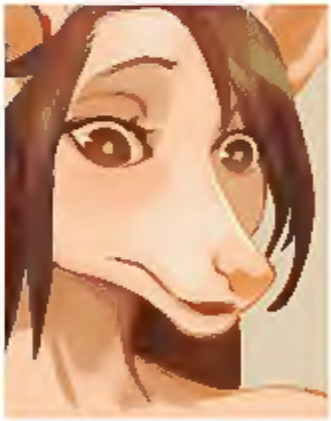
I claim I don't need people in my life, that I can go solo if I needed to.

But know Tessa's going to be gone for this long, I'm feeling an overwhelming loneliness washing over me already.

'm not feeling good.
Keep me warm.

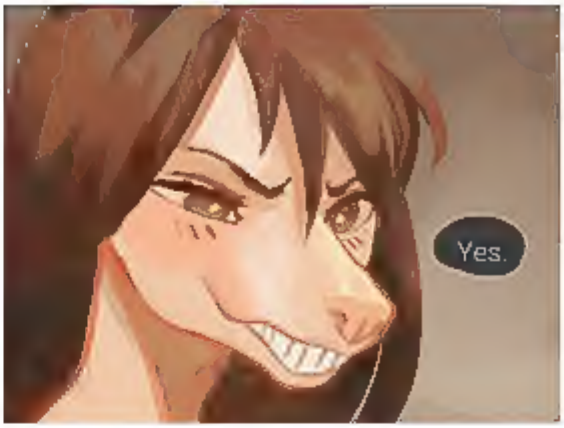
Goddammit, why do I have to be so emotional about something so non-issue?

wiggle
wiggle



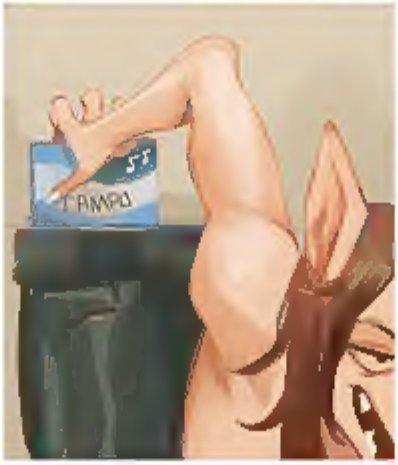
...oh.

Zeich, look at what you've done to me.
You proud of yourself?

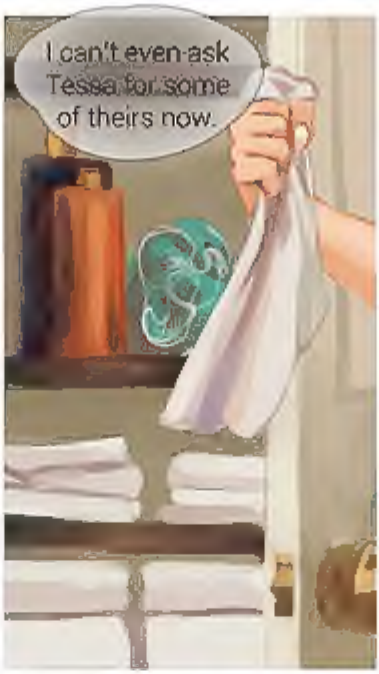

Yes.

Fuuuudge.

Ella, what's wrong?!
Cramps, cramps, cramps.

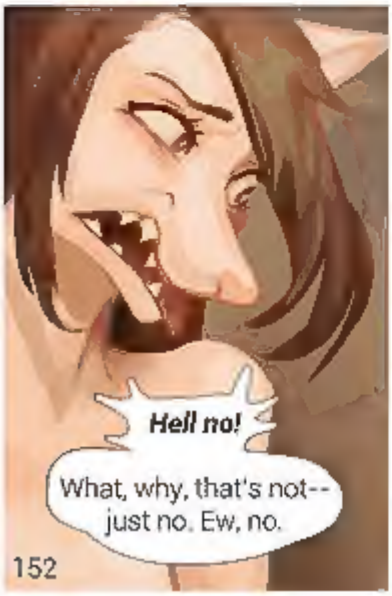

TAMPA

I KNEW SOMETHING BAD WOULD HAPPEN!


I can't even ask Tessa for some of theirs now.

That means I have to go...
looking like this...
Shove
Go to the store.

Nope, nope, nope.
Why not just wear me for it?


Hell no!
What, why, that's not-- just no. Ew, no.

This is too uncomfortable...

Maybe this instead?

Everything is pinching so tight. But I don't have any other shoes to fix this weird gait I've got now!

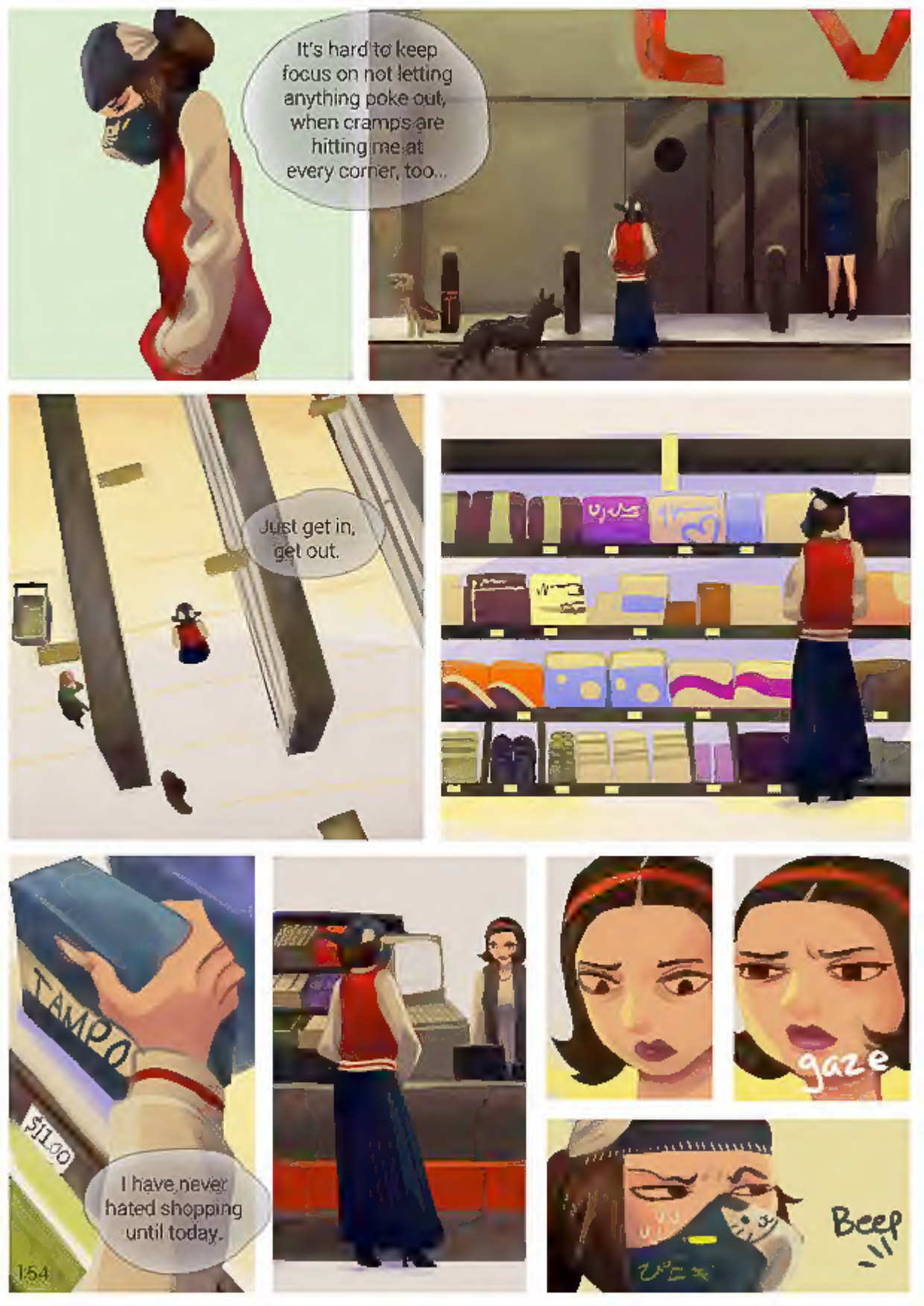
I'm going to look so weird wearing this...

Hopefully no one will recognise me with all this on.

Everyone's looking at me. Judging me.

Please stop looking.

Calm down... they're only looking for like, two seconds


It's hard to keep focus on not letting anything poke out, when cramps are hitting me at every corner, too...
Just get in, get out.
TAMPO
$11.00
I have never hated shopping until today.
gaze
Beep

That's one less thing to panic over
Trip
Stubbing your toe when they're all smashed into one tiny shoe is the worst.
!!
SUSPICIOUS
Ma'am, are you okay?
Oh yeah...just tripped.
Why are you dressed like that?
U-uhh, what?

I'm just, not--not really feeling good today, so I just threw something on.
Yeah? Not hiding anything?
L-like what?
Lookin' real suspicious. Why don't you tell me what you took from the store and hid under there?
Shit, he's talking about my--my tail!
He's going to see everything!
BARK
BARK
A dog?!

Screw my heels
Hey! Get back here!
wonder if that dog can smell what I am?
is that why it protected me?
Security guards are getting way too handsy nowadays!
?

You can't come in.
can't even raise a plant
Who am I trying to fool?
A WEEK PASSING
Yeah we're good here
We're having some issues regarding you know-what cuz she thinks that her family's going to get mad at her for dating a dude after calling herself gay all this time and this y'know
She'll get over it
hope And I got her to wear some PVC. Dude I gotta send you photos
Please don't
Sari's telling me she has to go to sleep
You heard the lady gotta go. Ella
Oh wow, it really is late I shoulda been asleep hours ago.

I've told you this a thousand times... you are too big for this bed.
That's why I bought you your own bed.
Oh crap, again?
Is this really going to be a monthly thing?
At least he's on the coathanger this time.
Come here boy! I don't want you getting hurt!

Hrggrhhh
gacrhh
n thanks
hggrrrgh
what are you doing?!
hgggg

He's not trying to get at me anymore

He's st making those weird noises, though

groan...

NEXT DAY

So it's back to the box for Zeich at night

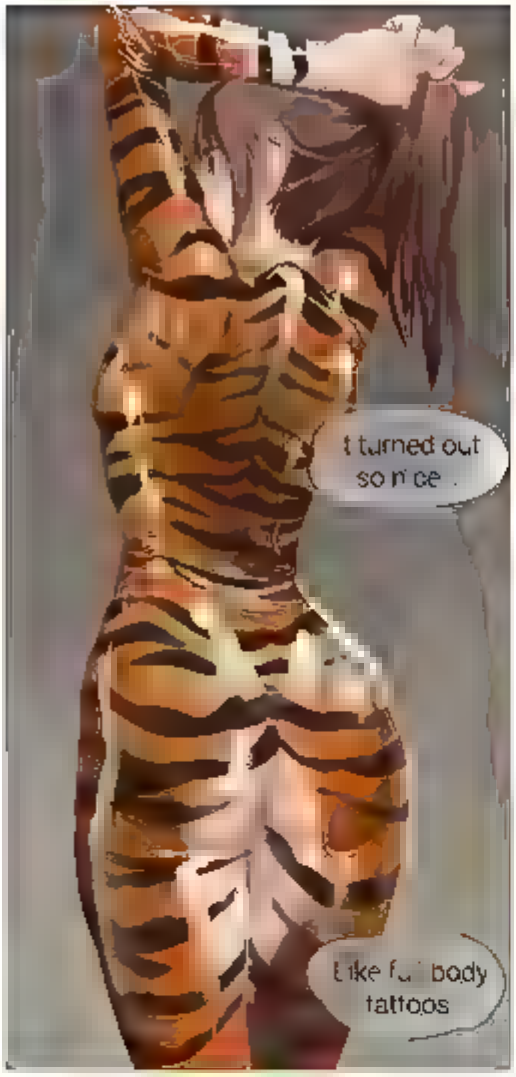
Is a dog all he really needs to calm him down at night?

Would he still attack me if I got too close?

Is the dog only a distraction?

Ella... need blood.

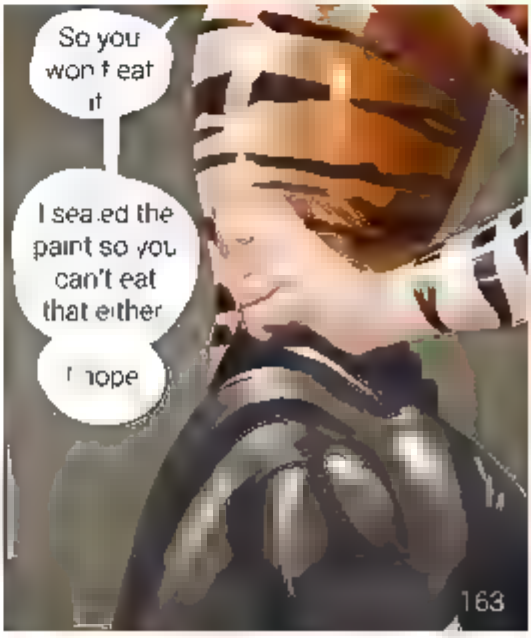
Kinda working on something, Zeich
Here use my foot
What are you doing?
Painting a clearsuit Tessa had bought for Sari before realising it was too short for her
SOME TIME LATER
It's finally dried!
Time to try on some new stripes

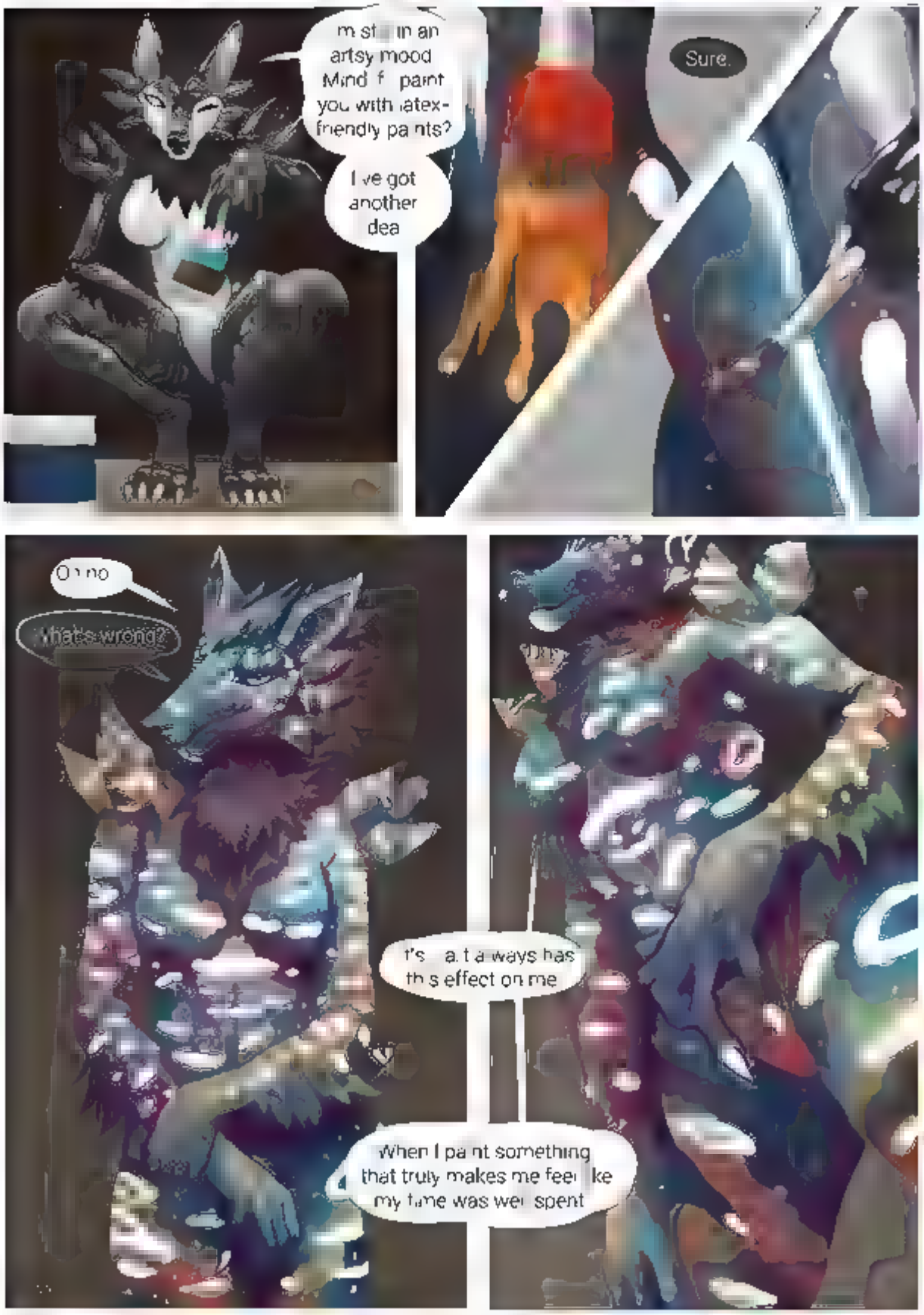

It turned out so nice.
Like full body tattoos

Ella, you haven't worn me in a week

The last time I wore you, I turned into a full monster!
At such an inconvenient time
Please?

You're not taking the suit off?
It's PVC. Cuz, y'know, Sam's allergic to real latex.


So you won't eat it
I sealed the paint so you can't eat that either
I hope


m st in an artsy mood Mind f paint you with latex-friendly pa nts?
I ve got another dea
Sure.
Oh no
What's wrong?
t's a t always has th s effect on me
When I pa nt something that truly makes me feel ke my time was wel spent

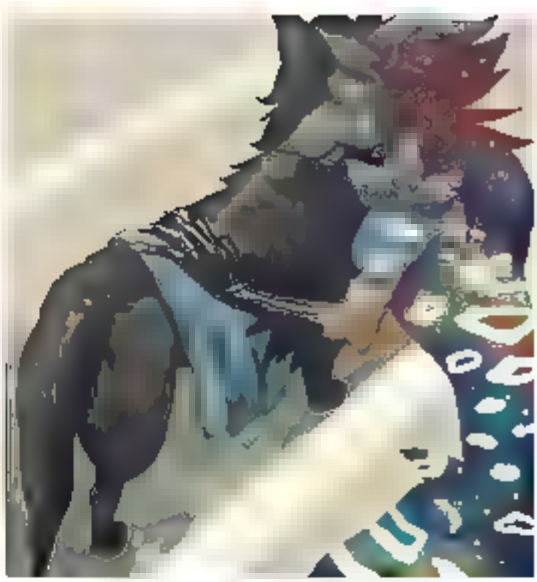
t makes me bu n
nside
have no words
o re so beaut f
As are you.

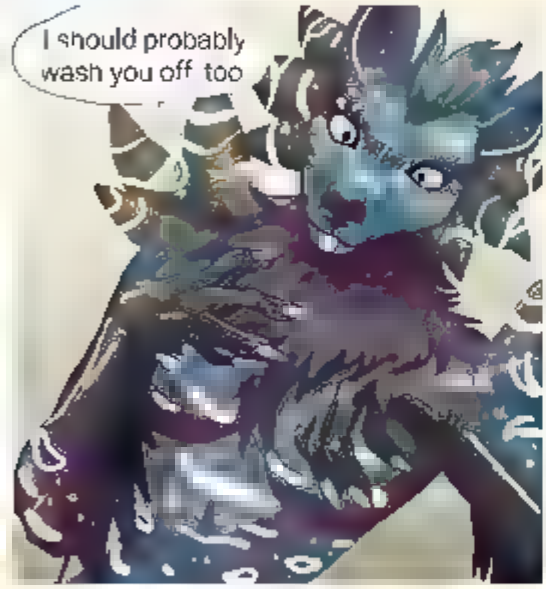
SQUEEZE

Haha
Stop. that tickles!

Oh snap!
Oops!

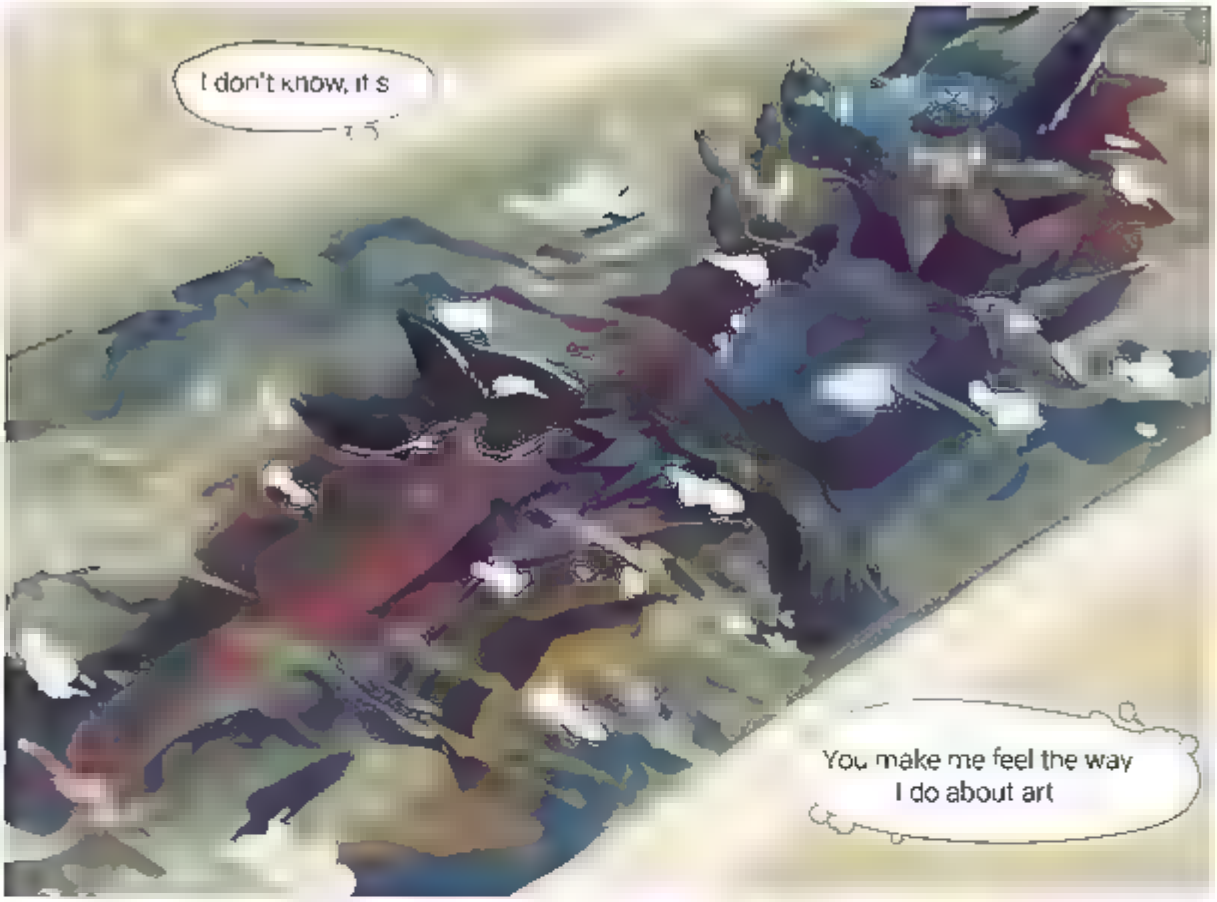
m C mon boy
gotta wash you up

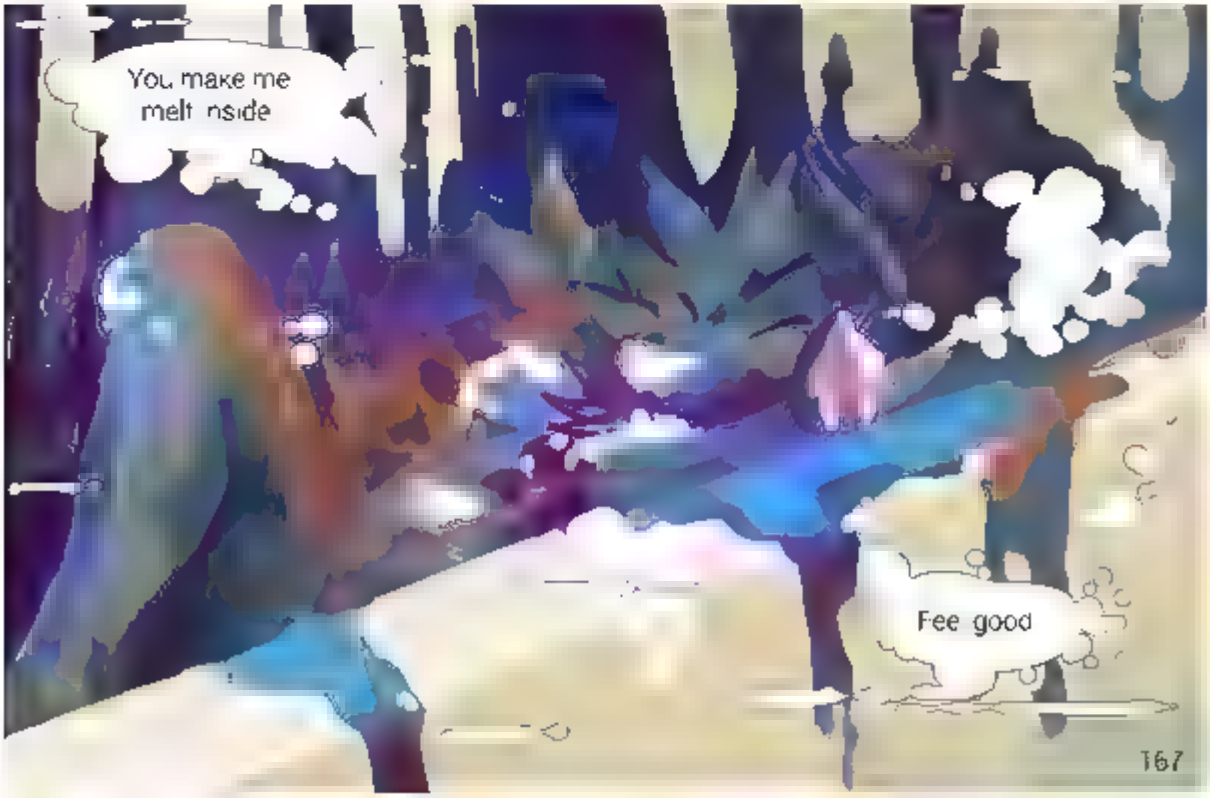



I should probably wash you off too

t be sad to have all this good work wash away

I'm not gonna lie, you make me fee a way that no one else does But it's intens fied when paint you.
don t even understand how someone can have these kinds of fee ngs for-- for a st.t
How does it feel, Ella?


I don't know, it's
You make me feel the way I do about art


You make me melt inside
Feel good

I really think I'm starting
to fall in love with you.

Author's Note

Because of some issues that came up recently, I've decided to omit half of this chapter from being drawn... I was originally going to show Tessa's trip to their girlfriend's place in a double chapter, but there is just too much hostility and it killed my will to put effort into the subject anymore. The best way to prevent misrepresentation/misunderstandings on this topic is to not have it at all.

Basic summary of what was going to happen:

Tessa visits Sari, they spend time for a while. Sari takes care of Tessa's suit-inflicted wounds; she loves doting over Tessa. Tessa tries to introduce Sari to PVC clothing, and while they do this, the topic of their relationship is brought up, to which Sari discusses how she's not happy dating a person she originally knew as a woman, and that she'd miss the things that made Tessa's body feminine. Tessa makes a comparison of body dysphoria to wondering if suits experience the same thing, among other things, trying to avoid the subject.

And then Tessa brings out the suit. It doesn't end well, and Sari is furious that Tessa decided to bring over something that could kill her. Sari says a very nasty thing, Tessa is not having it, and leaves. Then talks to Ella about it over the phone.

I'm sorry. I don't want to deal with more drama related to trans-issues. As for my stance, I no longer care. Cool if you do have dysphoria, cool if you don't, I don't care.

Tessa's issues will no longer appear in the comic.

I have had to deal with gross people over this, and I don't want them to ugly my world with hatred. So stress.

That was Tessa's chapter.

MEOW~